

Message Text

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ACTION DEAE-00

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-10 JUSE-00

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SNM-02 SY-04 TRSE-00 USIA-06 NSC-05

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FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5776

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, MX

SUBJECT: RECORD MEXICAN OPIUM SEIZURES

REF: MEXICO 533

1. IN REFTEL WE REPORTED THAT MEXICAN PRESS CARRIED ARTICLES LAST WEEK ANNOUNCING GOM SEIZURE (FROM GUADALAJARA NORTH) OF SOME 106 KILOS OF OPIUM GUM. WE ALSO REPORTED COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF OF THE OFFICE OF NARCOTICS CONTROL TO THE EFFECT THAT THOSE STATISTICS MAY HAVE BEEN SOMEWHAT INFLATED.

2. IN FURTHER CONVERSATION WITH THE SAME GOM OFFICIAL ON JANUARY 20, WE WERE INFORMED THAT THE CITED FIGURES NOT ONLY WERE CORRECT, BUT THAT DURING THE THREE DAYS FROM JANUARY 13 THROUGH 15 A TOTAL OF 232 KILOS RAW OPIUM WAS SEIZED THROUGHOUT MEXICO (THIS FIGURE PRESUMABLY INCLUDES THE 106 KILOS REPORTED EARLIER). GOM ALSO SEIZED 2 LITERS OF "LIQUID OPIUM" (APPARENTLY A HYDROUS SUSPENSION OF PULVERIZED OPIUM), ARRESTED 130 MEXICAN CITIZENS AND TWO FOREIGNERS DURING THIS SAME PERIOD.

3. CONSIDERING A 10 TO 1 RATIO, THIS REPRESENTS A PURE HEROIN CONTENT OF SOME 23 KILOS.

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Message Attributes

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